

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 stand rejected under Section 102 on the basis of Kanarvogel '027. Applicants traverse this rejection because the '027 reference does not disclose (or suggest) a device which applies pressure to the liquid material in the liquid material tank.

Amended Claim 1 recites, among other things, a device for applying pressure to the liquid material in the liquid material tank. This feature is absent from the '027 reference because the liquid supply tank 172 in the '027 reference is not pressurized.

Applicants further traverse the rejection of claim 6 because the '027 reference does not disclose (or suggest) a control means for controlling the device for applying pressure to a liquid material in the liquid material tank and the drive device, wherein the plunger is advanced when a liquid material is discharged from the syringe, and the plunger is retracted and a pressure is applied in the liquid material tank when a liquid material is supplied from the liquid material tank into the syringe. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 5 and 6 is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, 7 and 8 stand rejected under Section 103 on the basis of Kanarvogel '027 and Ramsay '815. Applicants traverse this rejection for the reasons given with respect to independent claim 1, and the following additional reasons.

The cited references do not disclose or suggest a device for applying pressure to liquid material in a liquid material tank by supplying gas above the liquid material in the tank, and there is no suggestion or motivation to combine the references to

obtain these features of claim 3. The '027 patent does not disclose a pressurized liquid material tank and the '815 reference discloses a system where liquid is displaced from a storage bag 20 by compressing the exterior of the storage bag.

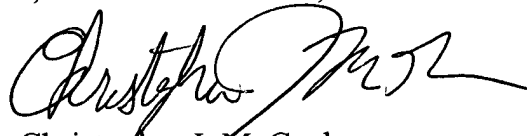
Claim 4 recites a leak hole in a position higher than the level of the liquid material in the liquid material tank. The cited references do not disclose or suggest the claimed leak hole in the liquid material tank, alone or in combination. Moreover, the cited references do not provide a suggestion or motivation to provide the claimed leak hole. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is also requested.

Further since new claim 9 depends from claim 4, it is believed to be allowable.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner should call Applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By 
Christopher J. McGeehan
Registration No. 56,001

January 19, 2006
300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 360-0080
Customer No. 24978